(b) whether Government propose to initiate action to resolve the problems; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The Government of Maharashtra have informed that in a Press Statement issued on 28.6.1991 the Chief Minister had stated that he proposed to arrange a meeting with the State Members of Parliament where the Maharashtra—Karnataka border problem would be considered.

(b) The Government of India is of the view that the problem could be resolved with the willing cooperation of the State Governments concerned and towards this end, the Central Government will be glad to extend assistance to them.

Toll payment system for National Highways

577. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to install toll payment system for some National Highways;

(b) whether there is any proposal to privatise the highway system or a part of it; and

(c) what are the steps being taken to improve highways all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to involve private sector in development of National Highways. However, the proposal is still in the initial stage of examination.

(c) National Highway in the country are generally in a traffic worthy condition and improvement works are undertaken keeping in view the existing condition, traffic intensity, *inter-se* priority on an All-India basis and availability of funds.

हाल ही में सम्पन्न हुए लोक सभा चुनावों में हिंसा की घटनायें

578. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हाल ही में सम्पन्न हुए लोक सभा चुनावों में विभिन्न राज्यों में हिंसा की कितनी घटनायें हुईं तथा उनमें कितने लोगों की जानें गयीं ;

(ख) ऐसी घटनायें होने के क्या कारण थे तथा क्या सरकार यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिये कि भविष्य में चुनावों के दौरान ऐसी हिंसक वारदातें फिर न हों, कोई कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० एम० जैकब) : (क) से (ग) राज्य सरकारों/संघ शासित क्षेत्रों से सूचना प्राप्त की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

दिल्ली में जल और विद्युत की समस्या

579. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले कुछ सप्ताहों के दौरान दिल्ली में जल तथा विद्युत की आपूर्ति में व्यवधान होने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इस संबंध में कर्मचारियों की मांगों पर विचार कर रही है ; और यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम०एम० जैकब) : (क) और (ख) जल आपूर्ति में व्यवधान का मुख्य कारण, पूरे संघ शासित क्षेत्र दिल्ली में अपर्याप्त जल आपूर्ति रहना है। जहां तक बिजली की आपूर्ति का संबंध है, कम फ्रीक्वेंसी /कम वोल्टेज के कारण उत्तरी ग्रिड के सिस्टम पैरामीटर को बनाये रखने के लिये दिल्ली विद्युत प्रदाय संस्थान द्वारा कभी-कभी लोड शैडिंग की जाती है। नई दिल्ली नगर पालिका के कर्मचारियों ने कुछ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों के लिये उच्च वेतनमानों की मांग की है। नई दिल्ली नगर पालिका ने मामले को दिल्ली प्रशासन को भेजा है।

Telephone dues from Members of Parliament

580. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total arrears due from the Members of Parliament in respect of use of phones in Delhi and their constitutencies over and above the fixed ceiling; and

(b) whether Government propose to take immediate steps to intimate to the Members of Parliament at the end of every month, the number of phone calls made by them from their Delhi and constituency phones in the month, so that the Members are aware of the real situations and adjust the use of phones accordingly?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): The total arrears due from Members of Parliament including Ex-MPs in respect of use of phones in Delhi and other constituencies over and above fixed ceiling as on 31.5.1991 is Rs. 3.93 crores.

(b) At present intimation is being given on a bi-monthly basis. Action is however, now being taken to send the intimation on a monthly basis with effect from 1-9.91.

Encounter between the BSF and the Bangladesh Rifles at the Phulbani Border

581. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI S. S AHLUWALIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were a number of casualties on both sides in encounter between the BSF and the Bangladesh Rifles that took place sometime in April, 1991 at the Phulbani border in the Karimpur police station area of Nadia district, West Bengal;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; the circumstances leading to the encounter between the BSF and the Bangladesh Rifles; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government at the diplomatic level to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In an unprovoked firing resorted to by BDR on a BSF patrol, one BSF constable was killed and two other personnel (a subedar and a constable) were injured. In the ensuing exchange of fire, three Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) personnel were reportedly killed and one was injured.

The above incident was provoked by some Bangladeshi cattle lifters who had illegally intruded into the Indian territory and tried to lift some cattle under the cover provided by Bangladesh Rifles.

Following the incident, a flag meeting was arranged between the officers concerned of BSF and BDR.